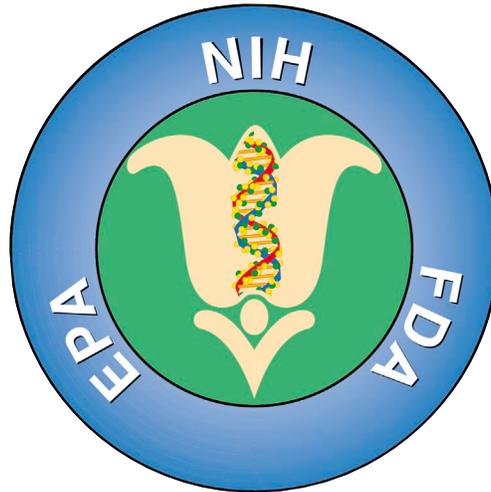


Assessment of the Allergenic Potential of Genetically Modified Foods

December 10-12, 2001

Sheraton Chapel Hill Hotel
Chapel Hill, North Carolina



Sponsored by the
Office of Research and Development,
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

National Toxicology Program,
Department of Health and Human Services

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences,
National Institutes of Health

Office of Rare Diseases,
National Institutes of Health

Center for Food Safety and Nutrition,
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Organized by the
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Toxicology Program
Research Triangle Park, NC



Purpose - There is growing concern among the general public and the scientific community regarding the potential toxicity of genetically modified (GM) foods. Of specific interest is the ability of GM proteins to elicit potentially harmful immunologic responses including hypersensitivity and/or autoimmunity. The lack of information on the potential toxicity of these products has created a considerable backlash against the producers and users of these crops. This meeting will gather experts in food allergy, GM crops and the regulatory aspects of these products, along with bench scientists and clinicians, to examine the current state of knowledge in the area, identify the critical issues and research needs regarding these materials and develop testing strategies to examine the allergenicity of these compounds.

AGENDA

*Continental breakfast is provided each day at 7:30 AM in the Lobby.
Attendees are responsible for lunch and dinner.*

MONDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

7:30 AM	Registration	(Lobby)
8:30 AM	Welcome	(London)
	Christopher Portier, Environmental Toxicology Program (ETP), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)	
	Linda Birnbaum, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	

KEYNOTE

Chair: Christopher Portier, ETP, NIEHS

8:45 AM	What are the Issues? Dean Metcalfe, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
9:15 AM	Assessing the Allergenicity of Genetically Engineered Foods: Summary of a Symposium at the National Center for Food Safety and Technology Steven Gendel, Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

SESSION I: CLINICAL ASPECTS AND CLINICAL INVESTIGATION OF FOOD ALLERGY

Chair: Lynn Goldman, Johns Hopkins University

9:40 AM	Clinical Spectrum of Food Allergy Hugh Sampson, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
10:10 AM	Break
10:30 AM	Assessment of Allergenicity to Genetically Modified Foods and Novel Proteins Samuel Lehrer, Tulane University Health Sciences Center
11:00 AM	Occupational Inhalational Allergenicity and Food Allergy Leonard Bernstein, University of Cincinnati
11:30 AM	Clinical and Laboratory Methods in the Assessment of the Allergenicity of Foods Robert G. Hamilton, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM	Can Post-Marketing Surveillance Provide Useful Information About the Allergenicity of Genetically Modified Foods: The StarLink Corn Experience Carol Rubin, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

SESSION II: TOXICOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF NOVEL PROTEINS

Chair: Dennis Hinton, FDA

1:40 PM	Digestion Stability as a Criterion for Protein Allergenicity Assessment Tong-Jen Fu, FDA
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2:10 PM **Structure and Stability of the Major Peanut Allergens**
Gary Bannon, Monsanto Company

2:40 PM **Break**

SESSION III: REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS

Chair: Christopher Portier, ETP, NIEHS

3:00 PM **Short Presentations Followed by a Panel Discussion**
Kathleen Jones, FDA
John Kough, EPA
Katherine Sarlo, Procter & Gamble Company
Val Giddings, Biotechnology Industry Organization
James Astwood, Monsanto Company

SESSION IV: RISK COMMUNICATION

Chair: Dori Germolec, NIEHS

4:15 PM **What Consumers Think About Biotechnology**
Thomas Hoban, North Carolina State University

4:35 PM **Public-Interest Perspective on Allergenicity**
Rebecca Goldberg, Environmental Defense

5:00 PM **Open Discussion**

5:30 PM **Meeting Adjourns**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

SESSION V: TOXICOLOGIC METHODS OF SAFETY ASSESSMENT

Chairs: Ian Kimber, Syngenta & Dennis Hinton, FDA

8:30 AM **Overview**

8:40 AM **Oral and Intraperitoneal Exposure of Brown Norway Rats**
André Penninks, TNO Nutrition and Food Research

9:15 AM **Oral and Systemic Exposure of BALB/c mice**
Ian Kimber, Syngenta

9:50 AM **Peanut Allergy in a Swine Model**
Ricki Helm, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences

10:25 AM **Break**

10:45 AM **Assessment of Allergenicity in Dogs I**
Bob Buchanan, University of California, Berkeley

11:20 AM **Allergenicity in Dogs II: Spontaneous Food Hypersensitivity / Allergy in Colony of Dogs**
Bruce Hammerberg, North Carolina State University

